



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Western Regional Office  
2600 North Central Avenue  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Mailroom  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

In Reply Refer to  
Office of Irrigation and Utility Services

Honorable Jonathan E. Koteen  
President  
Quechan Tribal Council  
P.O. Box 1899  
Yuma, AZ 85366

Dear President Koteen:

On November 21, 2025 a virtual meeting attended by representatives of the Quechan Tribe, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and the Bureau of Reclamation was held. The purpose of the meeting was to engage in a 43 CFR, Part 417 (Part 417) consultation with the Quechan Indian Tribe (Tribe) in an effort to assess the 2026 Colorado River water requirements of the Tribe. Part 417 obligates the BIA to see that diversions of Colorado River water by tribal entities do not exceed those reasonably required for beneficial use. During this consultation meeting the planned 2026 Colorado River water requirements of the Tribe were discussed.

With consideration given to consultation discussions and in fulfillment of responsibilities described in Part 417, the Regional Director, BIA Western Regional Office has formally determined the Tribe's 2026 Colorado River water order. This water order is provided in Table 1 (enclosed) and corresponds with the diversion schedule previously submitted by the Tribe to the BIA. This water order is being submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation for Colorado River water regulation and accounting purposes. A copy of the diversion schedule submitted by the Tribe, along with the Tribe's completed Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire, is enclosed.

Please direct any questions to Mr. Jonathan Cody, Irrigation Engineer at (480) 235-3848.

Sincerely,

Regional Director

Enclosures:

cc: Regional Director  
Lower Colorado Regional Office  
Bureau of Reclamation

Chief, Boulder Canyon Operations Office  
Bureau of Reclamation

Superintendent  
Ft. Yuma Agency  
Bureau of Indian Affairs

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Nick Bahr  
General Manager  
Bard Water District  
1473 Ross Road  
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**Table 1: Quechan Indian Tribe Diversion Estimates by Month - Calendar Year 2026**

Month	Arizona*					California*											
	Ranch 5	Domestic	Cha Cha Farms	Yuma East Wetlands	Total AZ	Indian Unit (Other than Ranches)	Domestic	Ranch 1	Ranch 2, Parcel 3	Ranch 3	Ranch 4	Ranch 5	Ranch 7	Ranch 15	Ranch 17	Total CA	Bucket 1a Conservation
Jan	135	3	4	22	164	2,472	44	27	19	0	63	95	12	29	0	2,761	1,083
Feb	92	2	5	21	120	2,615	44	34	24	0	79	62	15	36	0	2,909	1,083
Mar	294	2	5	141	442	4,506	58	46	33	0	108	200	20	49	0	5,020	1,083
Apr	368	3	7	149	527	7,088	55	50	35	0	0	247	0	53	0	7,528	1,083
May	444	3	7	153	607	6,112	66	61	43	0	0	296	0	65	0	6,643	1,083
Jun	415	3	10	203	631	3,247	85	74	53	0	0	277	0	78	0	3,814	1,083
Jul	306	4	11	182	503	2,060	93	81	58	0	0	205	0	86	0	2,583	1,083
Aug	155	2	10	208	375	3,246	83	78	55	0	182	104	34	82	0	3,864	1,083
Sep	296	2	8	215	521	2,686	72	62	44	0	143	198	26	65	0	3,296	1,083
Oct	331	2	7	97	437	4,018	56	51	36	0	120	221	23	54	0	4,579	1,083
Nov	264	2	4	61	331	4,057	50	36	26	0	85	178	16	38	0	4,486	1,083
Dec	117	2	4	21	144	2,603	43	36	25	0	83	77	16	38	0	2,921	1,087
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,217</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>1,473</b>	<b>4,802</b>	<b>44,710</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>2,160</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50,404</b>	<b>13,000</b>
<b>Entitlement</b>			<b>6,350</b>								<b>71,616†</b>						

\* All quantities in acre-feet.

†The Consolidated Decree entered March 27, 2006, in Arizona v. California allocates 71,616 acre-feet for lands within the boundaries of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation in the State of California. However, the Quechan Indian Tribe has entered into a Lower Colorado Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Metropolitan Water District to transfer 13,000 acre-feet of water previously forborne by the Quechan Indian Tribe through its February 14, 2005 settlement agreement to be used by Reclamation as system conservation water to conserve water in Lake Mead.